

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-7, 9-24, and 26-43 are pending in the instant application, of which claims 1-7, 9-24, and 26-28 have been rejected. Claims 29-43 have been allowed. Claims 1-28 have been cancelled. The Applicant respectfully submits that the claims define patentable subject matter.

Claims 11-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Paila (USPN 2004/0072557). Claims 1-3, 6, 10-13, 18-20, 23, and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Birell (USPN 5805803). Claims 1-4, 6-7, 10-13, 18-21, 23-24, and 27-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Birell (USPN 5805803). Claims 1, 3, 6-7, 11-13, 18, 20, and 23-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Handelman (USPUB 2004/0016002). Claims 5 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Handelman in view of Stallings (William Stallings, "Network Security Essentials: Applications and Standards", ISBN: 0130160938, 2000).

The Applicant has canceled claims 1-28 without prejudice. The Applicant intends to further prosecute these canceled claims in a subsequent continuation application. The Applicant also reserves the right to address any of the arguments stated in the present Final Office Action in such continuation application, if applicable. In addition, the Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 29-43.

CONCLUSION

Based on at least the foregoing, the Applicant believes that all pending claims 29-43 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner disagrees, the Applicant respectfully requests a telephone interview, and request that the Examiner telephone the undersigned Attorney at (312) 775-8176.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., Account No. 13-0017.

A Notice of Allowability is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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